## On Strict (Outer-)Confluent Graphs

Henry Förster, Robert Ganian, Fabian Klute, Martin Nöllenburg Graph Drawing 2019 • September 18, 2019

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## Confluence

Technique to bundle edges


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## Definitions



Plane drawing, i.e. no "real" intersections
No wrong adjacencies
No double paths $\Rightarrow$ strict confluency All vertices on a circle $\Rightarrow$ outer confluency

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Every plane drawing is (strict) confluent
$\Rightarrow$ Questions mainly interesting for non-planar graphs

## Known Results

Does a graph $G$ admit a confluent drawing?

- Only known for a few classes of graphs
E.g. Interval graphs, bipartite permutation graphs [Dickerson et al 2005, Hui et al. 2007]
- Negative case also only known for a few classes of graphs E.g. Petersen graph, Chordal graphs [Dickerson et al. 2005]
- Recognizing strict-confluent graphs is NP-hard
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One main open question
Which graphs have a strict outer-confluent drawing?

## SC Drawings of Unit Interval Graphs

Graphs that can be represented as intersection of unit intervals


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Decompose into cliques
Connect the cliques with confluent paths


## Our Results

strict-outerconfluent

## Our Results

strict-confluent $\longleftarrow$ unit interval

## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results


interval-filament


## Our Results



## Our Results



## Our Results



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Cop number: $c$ [Gavenčiak et al. 18] $\quad \mathbf{a C} \| \mathbf{\|}$


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Simple two player game on a graph

- Cop player has $k$ cop tokens
- Robber player has 1 robber token
- In a turn player can move their token to adjacent vertices
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## Cops and Robbers meeting SOC Graphs

Result: Strict outer-confluent graphs have cop-number 2

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Using one cop, robber is "locked" between $u$ and $v$
How to lock robber to smaller set of vertices?

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$\exists u w$-path under which we can lock the robber

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If no $w x$-path exists, we find $y, z$ such that we can lock a robber that is inside the red region

## Catching the Robber

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## Many other questions

Do strict outer-confluent graphs have bounded cliquewidth?
Complexity of other types of confluence?
What other graph classes admit (strict) confluent drawings?
Confluence, but with some allowed crossings? [Bach et al. 16]

## Our Results

Cop number: $c$



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## Construction of Traces

Given strict confluent drawing $D$
For each $u$ define trace $t(u)$ (these will be the strings)
Each trace starts at $u$ in $D$
Viewed from $u, t(u)$ stays on the left side of the paths

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## Two Problems for Strictness

Domino


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ac ${ }^{\|}$


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# SOC Drawings of Bipartite Permutation Graphs ac ${ }^{\| l|l|}$ 

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Better characerization for us:


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Better characerization for us:

$\Rightarrow$ Confluent drawing easily possible (Formal proof [Hui et al. 09])
Domino graph is a Bipartite Permutation graph $\Rightarrow$ strictness?

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Draw given graph with algorithm by Hui et al.

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Bipartite permutation graphs without domino have such drawings
Such drawings are bipartite permutation graphs without dominos:

- Twisted domino is only order admitting bipartite confluent drawing
- But twisted domino can not be drawn strict outer-confluent


## Counterexample for $\mathrm{BP} \subset \mathrm{SOC}$



